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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Continuation of 3. NOTE:

Regarding claims 1, 7, 12, and 16, the modifications (as seen below) to the claims change

their scope; therefore, the Examiner is required to perform an updated search.

1. (currently amended) A method for using a single broadband SS7 signaling gateway for

multiple wireless access gateways, comprising the steps of:

forming a cluster of media gateways, each of the media gateways having a respective

transcoder;

providing at least one first media gateway of the cluster of media gateways having an

integrated broadband SS7 signaling gateway, at least one second media gateway of the cluster of

media gateways being without an integrated broadband SS7 signaling gateway; and

using the at least one first media gateway for SS7 signaling and using the at least one

second gateway for resources other than SS7 signaling; and

using the at least one single media gateway with an integrated broadband SS7 signaling

gateway as a single SS7 point code for more than one gateway of the cluster of media gateways

whereby all resources of all media gateways in the cluster are available for a particular call;

wherein a single broadband SS7 signaling gateway is used for multiple wireless access

gateways, and wherein a call control entity is allowed to choose resources from all media

gateways in the cluster of media gateways.